Walter

To Quin Shea from Harold Weisberg JFK assassination appeals, 3/25/79
PA appeals; searches of Lab? and William Walter

Attached 62-109090-6163 is one of several records I have examined recently in which it is stated explicitly that the FBI Laboratory makes the tapes of public appearances that are within my FOIA and PA requests. I am aware of no single relevant record produced by or from the Lab in response to specific request and thus am led to believe that there was a conscious refusal to search a known repository for relevant records. This is not good faith and it is not due diligence. It is deliberate refusal to comply because any search of the records has to disclose what I perceive.

The proof is marked in blue at the bottom of Page 1. This also addresses the need to examine various copies of records to determine whether information is being withheld by not providing what really are not duplicate copies.

Walter has made himself a public figure. The show referred to in the note is hardly all. He has had considerable attention on CBS and other major TV media besides radio and print press. I therefore appeal the withholding on page 2 and a similar withholding on page 3.

Without his being a public figure this is an historical case and on that basis this kind of withholding was never justified. Particularly not by comparison with what the FBI did not withhold and violated PA to disclose.

The enclosure is not attached, although it may be elsewhere in the files.(If transcribed.)

There is an added reason for this appeal.

I happened to have been in New Orleans at the time Walter spoke to Lane. I was present when what he really said was being "improved" upon.

This may be related to the continuing Bonnett/Milteer withholdings in C.A.75-1996. Despite disclosure to others and the Beckwith affidavit of the same fact I have not received a single additional page.

There were other known and investigated threats against the President of that time. Several were reported by the Secret Service and as of southern origin. This is to say that if in that period the FBI did not caution its field offices it was very negligent. So one question I have is the FBI's formulation and its resort to semantics, which would not be at all exceptional. It is easy to obtain a predetermined result by searching for the wrong thing and limiting any search to the wrong thing.

Records I have prove that the FBI was aware of threats at that time, including for in Dallas.

On the chance they have significance I draw your attention to the number identifications added to the tape label, last page.

Bearing on alleged destructions to save space please note the cover of the record, which states there is permanent retention.